

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 04722 192228Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00
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OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02 L-03 AID-05 /087 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6186
DEA HQTS WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 4722

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS SNAR, AR
SUBJECT BI-NATIONAL NARCOTICS COMMISSION REVIVED

1. AMBASSADOR AND MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE JULIO JUAN BARDI JOINTLY SIGNED A STATEMENT ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 16 ANNOUNCING THE INTENTION TO PUT INTO OPERATION ONCE AGAIN THE BI-NATIONAL NARTOCITS COMMISSION ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED BY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN SEPTEMBER OF 1972. THE IDEA TO REVIVE THE COMMISSION CAME UP DURING THE AMBASSADORS FIRST CALL ON BARDI, SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL LAST NOVEMBER. SINCE THEN BOTH SIDES HAVE DECIDED ON COMMISSION MEMBERS AND AN "AUXILIARY COMMITTEE" TO HANDLE DAY TO DAY CONTACTS, AND HAVE EXPLORED HOW THE COMMISSION MIGHT PROCEED.

2. SIGNING CEREMONY WAS GIVEN RED CARPET SIGNIFICANCE BY BARDI IN A LARGE TURNOUT OF OFFICIALS FROM SEVERAL MINISTRIES AT THE SOCIAL MINISTRIES "SALON DORADO." CEREMONY RECEIVED GOOD PRESS PLAY.

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3. COPIES OF THE STATEMENT IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH WILL BE POUCHED TO DEA AND TO DEPARTMENT FOR ARA/ECA AND S/NM. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR'S PAST CONVERSATION WITH MIN. BARDI, DR. CAGLIOTTI (CONATON DIRECTOR) AND THE EMBASSY DEA'S OFFICE, INDICATED MY DISSATISFACTION OVER PROBLEMS OF COORDINATION INVOLVED IN DEALING WITH THE GOA'S MULTIPLE AGENCIES EXERCISING JURISDICTION OVER NARCOTIC CASES.

CURRENT GOA THINKING IS TO CENTRALIZE THE AGENCIES INTO ONE NARCOTICS DETAIL, THUS CENTRALIZING ALL NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. GEN. OJEDA AND MIN. BARDI HAVE TOLD AMBASSADOR NUMEROUS TIMES OF THEIR INTENTION TO PRESS HARD AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC DRUGS. GOA WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO PRESS HARD TO PERSUADE THE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES TO SIGN NARCOTICS TREATY.
CASTRO

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Message Attributes

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